

ABSTRACT

A first gateway is provided for establishing a communicating path for a user placing a call on a communication line. The first gateway has a plurality of modes of operation, including a data mode and a voice mode, wherein the first gateway is configured differently  
5 for each of the modes of operation. In one aspect, a communication method comprises the steps of configuring the first gateway to the data mode of operation; receiving a call from the user over the communication line; enabling the first gateway to detect human voice and/or silence on the communication line; maintaining the first gateway configured according to the configuring step in the data mode of operation if the first gateway does not detect human  
10 voice or silence on the communication line; and reconfiguring the first gateway to the voice mode if the first gateway detects human voice or silence on the communication line.